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Energy Independent Communities Newsletter

July 15, 2010

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Upcoming Meeting

**EI Pilot
Community**
Wednesday,

Welcome

Dear Friends,

A recently released report by the EI Pilot Communities shows that Wisconsin is developing real momentum in energy independence.

The ten EI Pilot Communities featured in this report found innovative ways to measure their energy consumption.

Through the analysis, the communities were able to both maximize the effectiveness of their investments and modify their energy plans to reach their independence goals.

The ten communities were able to accomplish 98 percent of their collective 25 x 25 goal. They reduced their overall 2025 fossil fuel-based energy consumption by 30 percent and reduced their 2025 carbon dioxide emissions by 40 percent.

The information gathered by the EI Pilot Communities will help Wisconsin's local units of government develop effective strategies, secure resources and capitalize on their unique assets.

I would also like to salute the Energy Efficient Community Block Grant (EECBG) recipients for moving forward with their projects.

Congratulations to all 140 EI Communities as we work together to make Wisconsin a cleaner and greener state.



August 4, 2010

[Agenda](#)

Sincerely,
Secretary Aaron Olver
Wisconsin Department of Commerce

El News:

Wisconsin Communities Reaching Energy Independence

Governor Doyle [announced](#) ten Energy Independent (EI) Pilot Communities are well on their way toward achieving "25 x 25." Click here to read the two independent studies by the [Energy Center of Wisconsin](#) and the [Local Government Institute](#) showing how this was accomplished.

Evansville's Green History Featured

Discover Wisconsin recently aired a segment on Evansville, highlighting their green past and future. [Video](#)

Greening up Wisconsin Communities



Energy costs for 82 Wisconsin communities will be significantly reduced next year as \$9.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds are put to work for retrofits and lighting projects. The new projects are expected to create 125 jobs in

Wisconsin and save more than \$1.6 million in annual energy costs. [Full story](#)

Training:

EPA Energy Star Training Sessions

Join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) this summer for no-cost online training sessions covering Energy Star tools and resources available to all public sector organizations. These sessions are offered on a regular basis and cover a wide range of topics.

[More](#)



Funding Opportunities:

US EPA Climate Showcase Communities Grant

Up to 30 communities around the nation could receive between \$100,000 to \$500,000 each through the EPA's Climate Showcase Communities Grant Program. This program is intended to assist local and tribal communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while benefitting public health, the environment, social welfare or the local economy at the same time. Applications for the grant will be accepted until July 26, 2010. [Learn more](#)



Two HUD Planning Grant Applications Announced

The [Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program](#) is for regional planning initiatives and requires a consortium of government and non-profit entities to apply. Applications are due August 23, 2010.

The [Community Challenge Planning Grant Program](#) is focused on individual jurisdictions and more localized planning. Pre-applications are due July 26, 2010 and final applications are due August 23, 2010

Please consider applying or forward on to entities possibly interested in applying!

See Them All

To review a full listing of current clean energy and energy independence funding opportunities, please read the [Redmond Report](#).

Share your Stories

If you have an energy success story you would like to share, or if your energy project was recently in the news, please let us know at oei@wisconsin.gov.

Thank you for your involvement in helping Wisconsin reach energy independence.

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